KIPLING'S

"Town That Was Born Lucky"



Medicine Hat

ALBERTA



LOCATED IN THE CENTRE OF THE MOST PROLIFIC GAS FIELD ON THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT

RB 14146

Ex dibris Universitates Albertaensis







LIBRARY OF THE WILLIAM OF ALBERTA

Any additional information not contained in this booklet may be obtained from the Commissioner.

JOHN T. HALL.

Medicine Hat

ALBERTA

DEAR READER, -- We could place before you a sentimental Indian legend regarding the name of **Medicine Hat**, but refrain from doing so, as it is our intention to deal with the present prospects and the future possibilities of the City of Medicine Hat, not with its ancient history,

Situated on the South Saskatchewan River at the intersection of the Crow's Nest R. R., with the main line of the Canadian Pacific R. R., 660 miles west of Winnipeg, 220 miles east of the Rocky Mountains, 800 miles from Vancouver and 70 miles north of the State of Montana, U. S.

With the enormous amount of American, English and Eastern Canadian capital that is at the present time flowing into agricultural channels in the Western Provinces, it is only a question of a very short time when this will be followed by an influx of industrial capital seeking manufacturing locations in the west.

For the manufacturer in particular and the business man in general in search of a location there is no point in the Western Provinces offering so many or so very valuable advantages as the City of Medicine Hat.

This, as the Indian might say, sounds like "heap big talk," but it is in reality' no more than a plain statement of facts.

The three great essentials in the manufacturing development of the cities in Western Canada are light, power and heat. These, in so far as they apply to the cities of the four provinces, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia are exceedingly expensive commodities, and in this respect Medicine Hat occupies a unique position in the fact that she stands alone among the cities, nature having solved these three problems by giving her natural gas in its purest and most unadulterated form and at a pressure that means an unlimited supply.

A few of the benefits that accrue from natural gas:

- (a) Illuminating gas for citizens at 131_2 cents per thousand cubic ft. Compare this with gas or any other illuminant in other cities east or west.
- (b) Gas for manufacturing purposes at 5 cents per thousand cubic ft. Compare this with any other **nower** produced by water, steam or electrical energy in any city between Winnipeg and the Pacific Coast.
- (c) For heating purposes 20,000 cubic feet of natural gas has the heating capacity of one ton of coal, at 13½ cents per thousand cubic ft. equals coal at \$2.70 per ton. No ashes, no d rt, no shovelling of coal, no chopping of kindling wood
- (d) Medicine Hat is not effected by strikes or any other difference of opinion between the coal operators and the miners.
- (e) Medicine Hat is not effected by thunder storns and other elements which interfere and put electrical light and power lines out of business.
- (f) In winter and spring the electrical plants run by water power are found to be greatly inconvenienced by slush, ice and other foreign matter finding its way into their turbines, and the writer

knows of cases where an entire plant has been rendered inoperative by being flooded with back water caused by ice jams having formed below the power house, causing the same to be flooded. No such trouble as that could occur in a plant where electrical energy is developed by natural gas.

}

- (g) Medicine Hat is not dependent upon trans portation by water or rail for her supply of fuel, light or power. This was clearly demonstrated during the coal famine of 1906 and 1907.
- (h) As the direct result of the ever increasing receipts derived from this and other municipal monopolies, the rate of taxation in the City of Medicine Hat is continually decreasing as the following table will show:

Assessment		Tax Rates
\$1,183,028	1904	18 mills
1,249,265	1905	14 mills
1,592,397	1906	12½ mills
4,541,782		
4,715,750	1908	

Compare this rate of taxation and assessment with other points.

BAROMETER OF SUCCESS

LOOK AT IT

ASSESSMENT GOING UP. TAXES GOING DOWN.

The Quality of the Land in the Neighborhood of Medicine Hat

For many years the Province of Alberta has enjoyed a world wide reputation as a grazing and ranching country, and the quality of her stock in horses, cattle and sheep has no superior and few equals in any market. Regarding mixed farming we are under the impression that nothing stronger can be presented than to give verbatim the opinion of a farmer in the vicinity of Medicine Hat, who has had twenty-four year's experience in western farming, the greater part of that time being in Dakota and Manitoba This should carry great weight, as it is the opinion of a practical man of long experience, who has no hesitation in saving that Southern Alberta, of which Medicine Hat is the centre, is the best mixed farming district in the world. He says:

"From a farming point of view Southern Alberta was a section of the country very little understood antil quite recently, when the capabilities along the line of mixed farming were forced upon the intending settler. There is nowhere upon the Continent of America to day any section of country of such marvellous resources as Southern Alberta. While these are almost undeveloped and little understood, yet these resources are there, and are attracting so much attention that we feel sure of such on era ef development within the next three years as has never been known in the world before. This development may reach over Western Canada, but the focus of all will be Southern Alberta. The homeseeker who is fortunate enough to find his way into a location here will soon realize that his lines have been cast in pleasant places,"

Irrigation Schemes.

In order to further enhance the fertility of the soil and to guarantee a large crop irrespective of rainfall, should there come a dry season, a system of irrigation has been inaugurated throughout the Province of Alberta which bids fair to overshadow the great irrigation projects of the United States, and a series of canals is being constructed which will form a veritable net-work of artificial streams throughout that tract of country bordered on the east by Medicine Hat, on the north and west by Calgary, and on the south by Lethbridge district. One company having Medicine Hat for its head-quarters, will very shortly have 250,000 acres of land under irrigation.

The growth of Medicine Hat during the past five years cannot be better exemplified than by examining the assessment roll and the tax rate of the past four years, which will be found on page 10 and in analysing these figures it shows that there has been a steady increase in the assessment and a decrease in the rate of taxation. This is partly accounted for by the ever-increasing revenue derived by the city from their water works and natural gas system. In 1907 the profits arising from these two civic monopolies after paying all operating expenses and interest, amounted to about \$35,000.

ADVANTAGES. For a city no locality in the west possesses the same natural facilities for the development of manufacturing and commercial interests as does the city of Medicine Hat, and it is a recognized fact, not only in the western states but also in the eastern provinces, that it is only a matter of a short time when industrial capital will be forced to follow in the wake of the enormous amount of eastern and American capital that is at present flowing into the agricultural and ranching

districts of the west; and it will follow as a matter of course that the district which affords the best facilities for manufacturing and commercial distribution will secure the greatest number of industrial enterprises; and as Nature has done so much for Medicine Hat and vicinity, any disinterested party, after having thoroughly looked over the district, must admit that it occupies the unique po ition of being in a class by itself. In our gas wells we have a commodity that supplies light, heat and power cheaper than it can be derived through any other source. In verification of this, we begint to refer you to the article on the cost of power on page 13.

At the present time gas is being used for power purposes either direct through gas engines or used under boilers to produce steam, and it can be utilized for the production of that greatest of all modern motive power products, electricity, cheaper than it can be produced by water power.

POPULATION.—The population of Medicine Hat at the present time is 5000, but, like other western cities, it is growing so very rapidly that it is practically impossible to get the population absolutely correct.

POPULATION OF DISTRICT.—The population of the electoral district of Medicine Hat is 25,000.

AREA WHICH CITY SERVES AS A MARKET PLACE OR CENTRE.—Medicine Hat is centre of a district which is tributary to it of 100 square miles.

NATURAL GAS ADVANTAGES.—It is almost impossible to give even a brief outline of this. As far as experts' knowledge goes the supply appears to be unlimited in quantity. It is said by experts to be the finest, purest gas ever found in

British North America. It is absolutely dry, odorless, and does not contain the slightest trace of sulphureted hydrogen. This is such a dangerous element in gas that the Dominion Government in the older provinces have instructed their inspectors that where they find gas impregnated with it even to the slightest extent they are absolutely to prevent its being used for any purpose whatever.

For cost and comparison of other forms of fuel, light and power, and price of gas in other cities, see table on page 16.

PROSPECTS OF STRIKING OIL.—Among those who are considered experts along this line there seems to be considerable diversity of opinion as to whether oil will be actually struck. Those to whom we have spoken on the subject all admit that where natural gas is found in abundance it is an almost sure indication of oil being in the immediate vicinity. This would appear to be the opinion held by the Canadian Pacific Railway Co, as they are at the present time boring for oil at Dunmore Junction, four miles east of the city.

AS A FARMING DISTRICT. From an agricultural point of view it is only within the last few years that the possibilities of the country surrounding Medicine Hat have begun to be understood. Perhaps we cannot convey this better to the average mind than by quoting the remark made by a prominont rancher of some seventeen years' experience:

"A few years ago anyone who advocated a farmer coming into Southern Alberta and taking up land for mixed farming purposes, would have been considered a fit subject for an in-sane asylum."

This fallacious theory has been expleded, and it is now admitted by those who are competent to judge that there is no better land anywhere in the west for mixed farming purposes than that of

Medicine Hat District, and the government of the Province of Alberta, in conjunction with the C.P.R. Co. and the Agricultural Society of Medicine Hat, have secured a large tract of land within two miles and a half of the city of Medicine Hat for the purpose of establishing an experimental farm to demonstrate the Campbell system of dry farming. As evidence of the fertility of the district we append four letters giving the practical experiences of four farmers in the district upon which we make no comment, as the letters speak for themselves.

Elkhorn Ranch

Medicine Hat, Feb. 14, 1908.

I have been a resident of the Medicine Hat District for 18 years during fifteen of which I have been engaged in mixed farming, but not on a large scale. I have had an average of 100 acres in crop each year for the past fifteen years. I farm mostly on the summer fallow plan and can prove a higher average of bushels per acre for eleven years straight than has been produced on any other farm in Canada. During this period my wheat averaged 45 bushels per acre and my oats 100 bushels. I have raised immense crops of roots and vegetables at all times.

I have known summer frosts to come only twice in the eighteen years, and these did little or no harm. We seldom have frosts before the 21st of October. The samples of wheat (spring) and oats raised on my farm have invariably been pronounced by visitors to be the best they ever saw.

Our climate is the finest on the continent, and from experience in other boasted climates, I can truthfully say that I prefer our Sunny Southern Alberta winters to those of California.

J. L. HAWK.

I came here from Montana about five years ago to engage in ranching. I found the prospects for raising grain were so good that I started in for mixed farming. I also operated a small threshing outfit for four seasons, and threshed the small average under crop in this district. I found the yield of wheat for first two seasons went all the way from 20 to 54 bushels, and oats from 20 to 120 bushels. quiry I found the small yields were due to poor methods of farming and the large yields were due to the proper methods of farming. I might say the past two seasons have been the most unfavorable for over fifteen years, yet I raised 24 bushels of wheat per acre, and threshed as high as 20 to 34 bushels for neighbors. The confidence of myself and sons in the future of this country is best expressed in the fact that we have recently added 1.600 acres to our holdings, and expect to operate a traction engine in plowing and other farm operations. I will try and keep the stock interests even up with my grain raising, as I find the one fits in nicely and profitably with the other. Our fine climate helps us out in this to per fection.

E. EARL.

Medicine Hat, Feb., 17, 1908.

I came to Medicine Hat from Kansas in the summer of 1902, intending to go into the cattle business. I have turned my attention to grain raising, and, from results already obtained, think I can farm successfully here. Judging from my experience of the climate, and from small experiments I have carried out, I am of the opinion we can grow alfalfa and fodder corn successfully. Apples have been raised in the town, and I see no reason why we cannot produce them in large quantities in due time.

I have lived in Pennsylvania, California, Illinois, Kansas, and Colorado, and although I am getting on in years I can honestly say this is the most agreeable climate, both winter and summer, I have ever enjoyed.

Medicine Hat is a city of about 5000, and we have enjoyed the benefits of church and school and other advantages which make it a desirable locality in which to live. I hope to sink a gas well on the farm for the purpose of establishing all the up-to date comforts and advantages it gives to a farm.

M. A. ZAHINIZER.

Medicine Hat, Feb. 17, 1908.

Being asked what I think of Medicine Hat country I must say it is a country in which you have to take your medicine. No faith cure method will produce results. Works and results go hand in hand. I have not scientifically done the works part, and results have been proportionate to the quantity of the work. Poor farming gives poor crops under almost any circumstances, and at Medi cine Hat more so. I have been a close observer of matters pertaining to grain raising in Medicine Hat district. I am satisfied that there is a method of farming that will make this country yield bounteous crops of grain. You may call it "The Campbell System of Soil Culture." This is the key to successful grain, grass, root and tree culture, and from these, combined with our favoring climate, we ought to produce a high class of all kinds of farm stock, as well as be doing something in orchard products. In ten years from now Medicine Hat will be the ideal all-round farming district of Canada. To be able to make this prophecy and aid in its fulfilment is ample reward for one who believes in the future of this district.

W. R. BABINGTON.

In the Interests of Health

Medicine Hat being situated on the banks of the Saskatchewan River has an abundant natural water supply which is free from sewage contamination, the nearest town being situated about 130 miles up stream. The water is from the mountains being pure and moderately soft. A filtering plant has been installed to clarify it and to insure it per fectly safe for domestic purposes. There has been no epidemic of typhoid fever here which speaks for itself with regard to our water supply, milk supply and general sanitation.

That the climate is healthy is shown by the marked improvement in tubercular subjects who have come here to live.

All nuisances or anything reported as being dangerous or menacing to public health are investigated at once and removed. All work of a sanitary nature is in the hands of a board of health composed of the Mayor, Engineer, City Clerk and Medical Health Officer.

Our people composed for the most part of Canadian, Old Country and Americans are robust, healthy, progressive and up-to-date.

Hospital

The City of Medicine Hat is justly proud of its well equipped and thoroughly up-to-date General Hospital, which is one of the finest in Western Canada, and would reflect credit upon any city ten times our size and population. It was built in 1889 to accommodate 24 patients exclusive of the staff. In 1895 there was built a woman's ward to accommodate six patients. In 1904 a handsome and commodious home was erected to accommodate

twelve nurses. In 1905 the women's hospital was enlarged more than double its capacity. During the present year an additional wing has been added to the General Hospital increasing the capacity to 67 beds and also a kitchen wing including pantries refrigerator rooms, and cooks and servants quarters.

In the year 1890 the number of hospital days was 3501 and in the year 1906 this was increased to 13,581 days which gives some idea of the increasing demand upon the institution. The building and grounds represents at the present time an investment of \$65,000.

Educational System

As in the province in general, so in the City of Medicine Hat in particular. The progress in the interests of education has been marvellous. This is without doubt, due to the demands of the citizens, that their representatives recognize its fundamental importance and give it a first place in their legislation. So far in the history of the new provinces the primary and secondary schools have remained together under the one executive and subject to the same provisions. In Medicine Hat, as in other large cities in Alberta, the local system is under the management of a Superintendent who devotes part or all of his time to supervision of the work throughout the various standards as arranging for unity and continuity of instruction. securing system, as in proper classification of pupils making proper provision for physical and moral welfare of pupils.

He conducts monthly teachers' meetings, and by rendering detailed monthly reports to the Board of Education is the chief Administrator of School Government. Acting as his deputies, are the principles of the various ward schools. Each of these has full charge of the discipline and particular management of the affairs in his school. Under him, are the teachers of the various standards. At present, consideration is being given to the institution of special instruction to be given in Manual Training, Drawing and Art Work, also Music and Physical Culture. For these subjects, teachers (specialists in the work) will be employed to devote their whole time to them, and to carry on the work in all st andards throughout the school.

At present, the staff consists of sixteen teachers, two of whom are engaged in high school work. These are: Superintendent C. Sansom, B.A.; C.A. Webb, B.A. The others engaged in public school work in Toronto Street are:--Miss Jessie, M. Fraser B.A.; Mr. Ware, Miss Morrison, Miss Wilson, Miss Wood and Miss Walker. In Montreal Street school Principal Hay, Miss Simpson, Miss Kennedy, Miss Hargrave, Miss Jackson, Miss Cox, Miss McCannel and Miss Caldwell.

At the close of 1907 there was a total enrollment of some 620 pupils. The present accommodation is taxed beyond its limit, and work is being commenced for the erection of a \$40,000 new, eight roomed school. An immediate increase of staff is necessary, and two teachers are being added for next term, one of these for high school departments.

Cost of Power.

At the last Convention of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association held in the city of Toronto September 24, 25, 26 and 27, 1907, Mr. L. G. Reid, consulting engineer, Montreal, read an

interesting paper on the "Cost of Power." It is a scientific and critical analysis of the entire subject by one who has evidently given many years' study to power production for industrial purposes. Going into detail figures, he proves conclusively that a 200 horse power plant with coal at \$3.50 per ton cannot be operated for less than \$35 per horse power per annum, or \$7000 per year.

He goes on to show that this represents a fixed charge against the business equivalent to \$140,000 or 5 per cent bonds.

In closing his paper he has something to say egarding electrical current generated by water power, in which he says:—

"You contract for a certain amount of power whether you use it or not (say one hundred horse power.) At the end of the year you will find that since your own load factor will probably not average over 60 per cent., what you have actually gotten equals \$33.33 per horse power per annum instead of \$20 that you contracted for."

In our humble opinion this paper, of which the above is a synopsis, appears at a most opportune time, when the predominant cry in the industrial field throughout the Dominion is a demand for cheaper power for manufacturing purposes.

After perusing and studying very carefully Mr. Reid's excellent paper, the query which presented itself to our minds was: -" What is the cheapest fuel that can be utilized for the production of power?"

A short time ago we had occasion to go into the merits of various fuels for this purpose, and after figuring out the cost per horse power of running a 200 horse power engine of the following ty es, namely:--

Type of Engine Type of Fuel

Gasolene Engine Gasolenej

Gas Engine Manufactured or Illuminating

Gas

Steam Engine Soft Coal

Self-produc'g Gas Plant Hard Coal, Coke or Charcoal

Gas Engine Natural Gas

Our computation was made with the various fuel prices prevalent in the Province of Alberta, and the result was that with natural gas at 5 cents per thousand feet (the price for which it is being sold for manufacturing purposes in Medicine Hat) the difference between natural gas and that of a self-producing gas plant of the same capacity (which was the next lowest in cost to the natural gas) was so great that we could scarcely credit the result, which worked out upon a 200 horse power gas engine (being the same horse power that Mr. Reid's illustration deals with) brought out the following results:—

Natural Gas consumed at the rate of 16 cu. ft, per horse power per hour at 5 cents per thousand ft. makes \$1.60 per day of ten hours, which, multiplied by 300 working days in the year, gives the cost of operating a 200 horse power engine, in so far as fuel is concerned, \$480 per annum, or \$2.40 per horse power per annum. No stokers are required, no coal being freighted from mines to be used under your boiler, and no ashes or refuse to be carried away. You are able to realize every foot of gas you pay for, and you pay only for what you use. If your minimum load during the day is 50

borse power you only pay for the amount of fuel to produce that 50 horse power. If at any time during the day your peak load reaches your maximum of 200 horse power you pay for that no more, no less. To those who have never investigated the merits of natural gas as a power producer, this seems to be almost inconceivable; and another feature that should not be lost sight of is the fact that it gives you the three great essentials for industrial production, namely, light, heat and power. The same commodity that drives your engine heats and lights your building. And that is why we think that the gas fields of Southern Alberta should prove an interesting study for eastern manufacturers who are endeavoring to arrive at the solution of cheap power.

Comparison

At \$35 per horse power, per annum, it costs to run a 200 horse power engine, 10 hours per day, for 300 days in the year: \$7,000 per annum.

The same engine can be run with Natural Gas for \$480 per annum. This effects an annual saving of \$6,500. This represents the interest at 5 per cent on an investment of \$130,000.

Extract from a paper on the "Advantages of Natural Gas," read by Mayor Cousins at the Convention of Canadian Municipalities held at Port Arthur and Fort William, August 13, 14 and 15, 1907.

After covering full the history and nature of natural gas in both American and Canadian fields, he goes on to state:

"No better illustration of its advantages can be given than by a brief visit to the shops of the Canadian Pacific Railway in Medicine Hat, and letting those in charge point out to the visitor what was done three years ago and what is being done to-day. When their steam plant was being operated with coal, it cost \$27 a day for fuel alone; add to this the wages of a stoker, night and day, and you have some idea of the amount of money saved nearly \$10,000 per year in fuel alone. Formerly in firing up their engines, hundreds of cords of wood and a large quantity of oil and waste were used. To-day a few inches of coal is thrown into the fire box of the locomotive, a burner in the shape of the letter U, about six feet in length, made of iron tubing perforated and attached to a rubber hose is thrown in on top of this coal and ignited, kindling the coal from the top down and at the same time making steam in the boiler. Under the old system it took from three to four hours to have an engine ready for the road. With the use of gas as described above, they are able to take a cold engine and have it under steam and ready for the road in one and a half hours. This is a saving to the company of six thousand dollars a year.

Locomotive and car springs for the entire division are made here in a small furnace operated with natural gas.

Locomotive tires can be reset without removing the wheel. Under the old system a loose tire upon the locomotive driving wheel meant that the engine was out of service for about twenty-four hours, as it had to be run into the shops, jacked up, and the wheel removed and the tire reset in the old way so well known to the country wagon maker or blacksmith. Now all that is necessary is to jack up the wheel clear of the track, put a circular bur ner made of pipe in two semi circles round the wheel, connect it to the gas with rubber hose,

light it, and in twenty minutes the tire is set and the engine ready for the road.

The water for their tanks, locomotives, station and works is pumped from the South Saskatche wan River with a Fairbanks Morse engine, supplied with gas from their own well, which practically gives it them for nothing. The well cost about \$4,500 to drill and install, and more than paid for itself during the first year of operation. But if they were to buy their own gas from the city at the rate at which it is sold to manufacturers, namely 5 cents per thousand cubic feet, this 50 horse power engine would cost them eighty cents, per day for a continuous run of twenty four hours. Their vards, work-shop, round house, station and platform are brilliantly lighted at a nominal cost, as it only requires the services of one man to look after their entire gas plant for all purposes.

At the present time they are conducting a series of experiments with natural gas upon a locomotive, and I understand they are well satisfied with the results. They anticipate that in a short time they will be able to store natural gas in such quantities as will enable them to run their yard and push engines used for assisting heavy trains up the grade in and out of!Medicine Hat, and in this connection I would like to call your attention to a series of experiments by Dr. Chas F Smith in running an automobile with natural gas, and fully recorded in the Chicago Sunday Examiner of June 23, 1907, and also in the Horseless Age issued July 10, 1907.

Cost of Gas in Various Cities.

CANADIAN

Calgary	81	75	per thousand	cubic feet	
Halifax	1	00			
Moneton	1	50			
Montreal	1	00	46		
Nelson	ţ	75	"		
Ottawa	1	10	"		
Toronto	0	80	46		
Vancouver	1	35	**		
Victoria	1	25	46		
Winnipeg	1	20	"		
Hamilton, manfact'd	1	00	46		
" natural	0	45			
MEDICINE HAT-					
Manufacturers	0	05			
Domestic	_	13	1; "		
Domestic	Ŭ		ž		
AMERICAN					
D 14. Manual	ø 1	65	"		
Butte, Mont		45			
Fargo, N. D		40 50	•		
Grand Forks, N. D	_				
Minneapolis		05			
St. Paul		00			
San Francisco		00			
Spokane, Wash	-	50	"		
York, Neb		62			
Kansas City, natural		15	46		
" domesti	e 0	60	"		

Notes

...from...

The Other Fellow's Diary

If you want the truth

Ask

The Other Fellow

What the

Other Fellow Thinks

about

MEDICINE HAT

Alberta

Admiral Lord Charles Beresford

In an interview with a representative of the Winnipeg Free Press, March 19th, 1907:

"One of the common remarks we hear in Great Britain with reference to Canada is that the Dominion is the coming country. There can be no doubt regarding the future of the Dominion, which will be increasingly bright for hundreds of years to come.

"The fact is, however, not that Canada is the country of the future—Canada already has arrived. She has passed through the early years of infancy and childhood and has taken her place as one the countries of the world.

"I was particularly struck with the natural advantages about Medicine Hat, where we spent a few days. It would appear that this town is destined to become a city of great importance.

"The town appeared to me to be located very similar, though in a smaller way, to say, Chicago or Hanchow, in China.

GREAT COMMERCIAL FUTURE

"The supply of natural gas, as long as it lasts, must have a great influence on the future commercial development of the city.

"Then there is the river, not very deep, but with an excellent water head, and capable of carrying a considerable traffic. The town also has the rail head and, all in all, is possessed of singular advantages.

"The people of the west are all of a fine manly stamp, full of energy and go."

F. A. Ackland, Special Correspondent of Toronto Globe.

"Medicine Hat is perhaps the only city in the world that keeps its lamps lighted day and night, month after month, year after year. It looks somewhat extravagant, but Mr. Eugene Coste, the eminent American engineer, declares, after a careful investigation of the gas and the soils, that there is no reason why the natural gas of Medicine Hat should not last for a century, or for that matter for several centuries.

"But while natural gas is the one unique feature of Medicine Hat that commands attention and that particularly interests every visitor, the city has other claims on us. It is the centre of an extensive ranching district, which is yielding but slowly to the invasion of the settler. Medicine Hat is the largest shipper of ranching products in the west.

"A pleasant feature of the town is its park system and municipal nursery—the latter for the encouragement of local tree planting. The trees are obtainable as seedlings from the Forestry farm at Indian Head kept for a couple of years at the city park nursery and then transplanted into the grounds of such residents as desire them, a condition being that they are within a certain distance of the street.

"I must not close without a word regarding the homes of Medicine Hat. The place has been called a city of homes. One rarely sees in a city of its size, so many handsome homes and well-kept lawns. Apart from the merchants and professional men, the occupants of the city are mostly weal thy ranchers of the country round."

Industrial Hub of the West

(July 5, 1906. Chicago Chronicle.)

While the Canadian northwest is attracting wide attention the world over, the particular locality which especially engages the attention of manufacturers about Canada and the United States is the City of Medicine Hat, in the Province of Alberta, located about midway between Winnipeg and Vancouver, B.C. Here it is that natural gas has been four in quantities which settles the question as to the future industrial hub of the "last west." Natural gas is a new thing in this corner of the hemisphere. The city owns the wells and gas is used in every house for fuel and light purposes, and manufacturers are supplied at the absurdly low rate of 5 cents per thousand feet.

With the C. P. R. running east and west, the Crow's Nest running south-west, J. J. Hill's new venture north and south through Medicine Hat, the prospects are bright for the future of this bustling city, which owns all its own municipal franchises excepting the telephone system, and is now making arrangements to acquire even that with the announced policy of giving the people the benefit of a \$12 per year service. The natural gas industry has been steadily and scientifically developed by pluck, persistency and energy, and the revenue from the system is very large, and the surplus derived is used in the reduction of taxation. The revenue producing assets of the town exceed the total value of its debt.

No Fuel Famine in Medicine Hat.

(J. M. Barn, Winnipeg Free Press, Feb. 18, 1907.)

Written during the Western coal famine 1906-7.)

"While almost every city or town in the west has been either on its knees to the transportation kings, or shaking its fist in their faces, imploring or threatening, calling meetings and passing empty resolutions, and so on, there is one town which has simply snapped a finger and thumb at them, and gone on its way rejoicing. This statue of independence standing on the banks of the Saskatchewan is "The Hat," and its independent spirit is born of mother earth in the form of natural gas, and although the citizens of this town neither toiled or spun, nor ploughed, nor sowed to obtain it they are proud of it. We forgive them. We are not green eved. They have no coal bills nor coal scuttles, and no smoke and no ashes, and they do not have a couple of inches of black dust on the sidewalk before each house, and the "wimmen" folks do not have the mark of Cain across their faces every meal time. This mysterious gift is thrown up so abundantly that it is used for all purposes, for heating and lighting, for household heat, light and cooking, for public buildings and factories, for the streets, where it is allowed to burn all day, because it is cheaper to do so than to pay a man to go around and "douse the glim."

Mr. Vincent Scully, Ex-M.P.

On Nov. 30th, 1906, Mr. Vincent Scully, Ex-M.P. for West Clare, Ireland, visited Medicine Hat, where he was met by his son, Mr. Dennis Scully, who is ranching south of Macleod. They expressed themselves greatly surprised at the flow of natural gas here.

"With the unlimited supply of natural gas which you possess, in my estimation Medicine Hat should in a very few years become the Pittsburg of Western Canada."

Trust an Irishman to know a good thing.

Medicine Hat Weather

By James P. Hornaday, Staff Correspondent of The Indianapolis News.

(July 14, 1906.)

Medicine Hat, Province of Alberta, Canada.—
"Here is where you get your weather," says the conductor as the train pulls into the town. And then the natives take the visitors from the States around the corner and point to a box eight by four feet on the side of the hill, where "weather for the States is bred." Medicine Hat gets a conspicuous place on the weather map issued by the United States Bureau. The name figures in most of the cold weather reports, but, as a matter of fact, the town is not a weather breeder. It possesses an extremely mild climate in winter in comparison with some of these North-West Territory towns and

does not deserve all the advertisement it receives through Uncle Sam's valuable bureau. It may be remarked incidentally that it gets hot here in the summer. To-day it was 80 in the shade, and all there was lacking to make it a summer day of the central west was humidity, a commodity with which they are not acquainted up here.

Theo. M. Knappen, Special Correspondent Chicago Inter-Ocean.

(April 25, 1906.)

"Whatever may be the agricultural future of the country, Medicine Hat is certain to be a manufacturing town of importance. The apparent inexhaustible reservoirs of natural gas which have been opened here seem to insure that, to say nothing of the great coal deposits. It is literally true that at the present time Medicine Hat is run by natural gas. It is used for heating, lighting and steam purposes throughout the city. The gas plant is owned by the city and gas is furnished at the lowest rate offered anywhere in America."

The Gas City.

(August 7, 1906.)

(A. J. Yoke and a party of friends reported in Adrian, Mich., Daily Telegram. Description of a trip through the great North-West).

No more interesting town was visited by us than Medicine Hat. It is certainly a beautiful city of 4000 inhabitants. Fine water system, and one of the best natural gas plants I have ever examined. Eight gas wells have been sunk here, five shallow and three deep, with a million to a million and a half feet each per day, and a rock pressure of 525 to 590 pounds to the square inch. The city is situated in the Valley of the Saskatchewan River with magnificient table lands surrounding it.

The Rosery Flower and Seed Co. Limited, Winnipeg

"We looked over the entire Western field before deciding to establish tour Greenhouses, and came to the conclusion that nowhere in the three provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta could we find the same natural advantages which Medicine Hat possesses for our business."

In comparing Chicago, Minneapolis, and Ontario climates they say:

"In Medicine Hat the Company will have at least 40 per cent. more sunlight than in either of the above mentioned places. The climate is on the average milder than either place, the average temperature being: -March, 1906, 27.63: April, 50.51: May, 52.01: June, 61.50: July, 71.27; August. 67.36: September, 60.33: October, 49.44: November, 28.60: December, 15.00; January, 1907, 8.10: February, 27.73: and most important of all, heating can be done cheaper, much cheaper, than in either of these places.

The Medicine Hat City Council have agreed to sell us gas at 5 cents per 10.0) feet. This means that our heating will cost us less than one half of what it would cost us with coal at \$3.00 per ton."

This is a great advertisement for Medicine Hat -that the roses and cut flowers of the three provinces are grown here, and is an off-set to the American impression that Medicine Hat is the birthplace of blizzards. Think of a bed of roses being the birthplace of blizzards. The two are not compatible.

Manufacturing in Medicine Hat

(September 27, 1906.)

Mr. C. C. Ballentyne, President Canadian Manufacturers Association, in an address to the Association at Winnipeg, mentions Medicine Hat several times in connection with manufacturing possibilities.

"It is for us to say whether we will continue to purchase our manufactured goods in the United States or just put a little more tariff on certain lines and make the factories in the States build plants in Winnipeg, Medicine Hat or any other of the great centres of our western prairies which have advantages to offer, and by this means keep the population we are getting."

(Natural Gas Journal, New York, September 1907.)

We are confidently looking forward to the city of Medicine Hat becoming the manufacturing centre of that enormous territory lying between Winnipeg and the Pacific coast, and northward from the United States boundary line, and feel that natural gas as a source of power will be a very important feature in the establishment and development of industrial concerns in this locality.

(Rudyard Kipling October 13, 1907.)

This part of the country seems to have all Hell for a basement, and the trap door appears to be in Medicine Hat."

Emigration Agriculture Society

Politics
Literature
Sport

CANADA

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for all interested in the Dominion

The Standard Authority on all Canadian Matters

Commerce
Manufac'ing
Export
Mining

Finance

Offices-34 & 35 Norfolk St., Strand, London, W.C.

Montreal

Toronto

Vol. VIII.

November 30th 1907

No. 99

What "Canada" Thinks about Medicine Hat.

"Where the Cheapest Power in the World is Obtained."

Down in the south-eastern corner of the new Province of Alberta is a little scrap of territory about the size of Prussia, Holland and Belgium, which is underlaid by a great gas bearing stratum. In those caverns, never seen by man, but already pierced by the steel drills of hundreds of gas well borers, there are billions of cubic feet of gas waiting to burst through the containing pipes, and to make the cities and towns of this district one of the fore-

most manufacturing centres of all Canada. Medicine Hat it was that first benefitted by the discovery of natural gas, and Medicine Hat's strides a long the pathway of progress have been largely due to the existence of gas fields, as they are locally termed. It is true that the whole of Western Canada is attracting attention the world over these days, but the particular locality which is specially engaging the attention of the manufacturers throughout Canada and the United States is the city of Medicine Hat. The name of the place is remarkable; so, the enthusiastic citizen will assure the sojourner, are its manifold advantages. The city is situated about midway between Winnipeg and Vancouver. Ninety miles to the south is the American border, and north, east and west are rich farm lands and growing towns which will furnish. not all the market, but some of the market, which the canning industries of Medicine Hat will serve. Natural gas is quite a new thing in this corner of the hemisphere, but it is an easy commodity to beaccustomed to, and in Medicine Hat come planing mills are grist mills. and operated by the cheapest power in the world. The civic corporation owns the wells and the gas is used in every dwelling, every shop and every factory, for light, heat and power alike. Manufacturers are supplied at the amazingly low rate of five cents a thousand cubic feet-one fifteenth of the price at which artificial gas is sold.

"Canada" has been preaching the doctrine of Canadian industrial investments for British capital Here in Medicine Hat is to be found a concrete example of the opportunities which lie awaiting such investments. The Americans have been first on the spot; but surely an Englishman can see a good thing as quickly as any son of Uncle Sam. The anned meat industry, which is already on its feet,

will enjoy the benefit of low prices for both heat The future possibilities look so promising to Americans that one of the largest iron firms in the United States has sent a representative to the city to make tests with a view to ascertaining whether the gas will meet the demand which will be made upon it by the furnaces. No doubt of any kind in this direction exists in the mind of one of Canada's great agricultural implement concerns, which now does all its manufacturing in Eastern Canada. This company has already made arrangements for the acquisition of a great tract of land adjoining the city limits, upon which will be built factories which will turn out rakes, cultivators, binders and harvesters for the farmers of the Great West.

But agricultural implements by no means exhaust the list of the manufactures of the city and district. Americans from Indiana have invested considerable money in the brick-making industry, but they are still far behind the native Canadians who have gone into the business. Pressed bricks usually sell at about 40 dollars a thousand in the Canadian West, so it will be seen that with practically free raw material, dug from under the prairie's coating of grass, there is promise of pretty profits in this, a business in which the demand is constant and increasing.

If you want to know, do it now. What? Write JOHN T. HALL, Commissioner.

"This district seems to have all Hell for a basement."

-KIPLING

Natural Gas City

An Ideal City for Home or Business

Noted for its Energy

- " Prosperity
- " Industrial Advantages
- " Educational Advantages
- " Religious Advantages
- " Social Advantages
- " Cleanliness
- " Fire Fighting Equipment
- " Delightful Climate

"The City of Eternal Light"